

GOVERNOR M'CREARY'S OPENING SPEECH

He Begins His Campaign at Bowling Green In a
Strong Address That Is Received With
Great Enthusiasm.

One of the Largest Crowds That Ever Attended a
Political Meeting in the State Greeted
the Ex-Governor.

He Proclaims Himself in Favor of the Extension of
the County Unit Law, and Leaves No
Doubt of His Position.

A HEARTY, SINCERE, RINGING DOCUMENT

BOWLING GREEN, Ky., Sept. 4.—Governor James B. McCreary, Democratic nominee for Governor, opened his campaign in this city today. The largest crowd that ever attended a political meeting here was present. Democratic voters poured in from the surrounding counties to give their personal approval to their party leader and to endorse the platform upon which he is asking the votes of the people. The enthusiasm with which Governor McCreary was received gives evidence of an aroused party spirit, which augurs well for Democratic success.

His speech was a complete review of the political situation in Kentucky and the nation. It leaves no live subject untouched. It calls the Republican party to account for its failures to live up to its platform pledges.

Governor McCreary delivered a masterful speech. He heartily endorsed every plank in the Democratic platform, and left no doubt in the minds of his hearers where he stands on every public question.

His speech in full is as follows:

Judge O'Rear's Resignation as a Judge of the Court of Appeals.

Judge O'Rear, in his Elizabethtown speech, to excuse himself for not resigning the office of Judge of the Court of Appeals while a candidate for Governor, referred to me as follows: "My distinguished opponent also holds an office of power and dignity as Peace Commissioner, perhaps with some profit, also. He has not resigned from that position, and I hope he will not resign."

If Judge O'Rear had asked me about this, I would have prevented him from misrepresenting me. I am President of the American Peace and Arbitration League, which has a large membership in various States, and whose main object is the settlement of international disagreements without war by an international arbitration tribunal.

When I decided to be a candidate for Governor I was unwilling to hold that office and not attend to its duties while a candidate for Governor, and I resigned, to take effect January 1, 1911. My associates tried for a while to keep me in office, but my resignation was finally accepted, and I received no pay from the first day of January, 1911. The letter of the General Secretary of the American Peace and Arbitration League accepting my resignation is as follows:

"April 20, 1911.
"Hon. James B. McCreary, Richmond, Ky.:
"Dear Sir:—In compliance with your proposal at the directors' meeting of June, 1910, to retire January 1, 1911, in favor of Mr. Clark or Mr. Clews, if personal affairs require your attention in Kentucky, and in accord with your recent letter to Vice President Clark, reaffirming the same, your resignation as President of the American Peace and Arbitration League was accepted at an adjourned meeting of the Board of Directors, held at Mr. Clews' office, April 19, 1911.

"Vice President Clark declined the honor on account of business engagements requiring his absence many months in the year, and Mr. Clews was elected as President of the League.
"By unanimous vote of the board you were elected as Honorary Vice President. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this and oblige, Yours truly,
"ANDREW B. HUMPHREY,
"General Secretary."

I was under no obligation to resign, because I did not hold either a State office or a United States office, but I resigned because I was unwilling to neglect the duties of an important office while I was a candidate for Governor, and which I believed would consume nearly one year.

I should not have referred to Judge O'Rear holding an office while a candidate for Governor but for his reference to me.

Judge O'Rear has been, according to his own statement, a Judge of the Court of Appeals for eleven years. He has five years to serve as Judge before his present term expires. For two years it has been currently reported Judge O'Rear would be a candidate for Governor, and for a number of months before the Court of Appeals adjourned for the present summer recess he did not perform the duties of Judge, but was actively engaged making speeches and conducting his campaign and consulting with his political supporters, and he will be absent from his duties as Judge during the months of September and October. The average man will see Judge O'Rear's situation and the difficulty of discharging his duties as Judge during the year he was preparing to be a candidate for Governor, when voters, whose support he desired, had cases before him in the Court of Appeals which involved their property, liberty or life. They will also notice that during the months Judge O'Rear engaged in an active

campaign for the nomination and in the campaign after his nomination, although not performing any of the duties of his office as Judge, he drew the salary of that office, which amounted to \$5,000 per annum, or \$416 per month, and announces that he will not resign unless elected Governor, and that he will appoint his own successor, and not have his successor appointed by Governor Willson. It is no excuse for him, as stated by some of his friends, that in all the history of Kentucky no other Judge of the highest court of the State has ever done before as the jurist candidate of the Republican party is now doing, and that this is the first act of that kind, and therefore should be overlooked.

The Cases Cited by Judge O'Rear Are Not Analogous to His Case.

The cases cited by Judge O'Rear to excuse him for holding the office and drawing the salary of a Judge of the Court of Appeals while a candidate for Governor are not in point, and are not analogous to his case.

Mayor Head discharged all the duties of Mayor while a candidate for Governor. Hon. Ben Johnson attended to all of his duties as a Congressman while a candidate for Governor, and Hon. Ollie James, while a candidate for United States Senator, attended to all of his duties as a member of Congress, and neither of these three men had cases before them in which the voters were interested, whose support they desired; and it may be also said of Judge Paynter, when a candidate for United States Senator only a short time, he remained in Frankfort and attended regularly to his duties as Judge.

Judge O'Rear seems to have overlooked entirely the seventh plank in the Republican platform, which he wrote himself, according to his own admission, and which provides that the judiciary of the State in both the Circuit and Appellate Courts should be chosen on nonpartisan grounds, and the continuance in office of faithful judicial servants should be determined by no other qualification than fitness.

Judge Parker, of New York, who was nominated as the Democratic candidate for President, resigned as a Judge of the Supreme Court of New York the day that he accepted the Democratic nomination for President, and his salary was \$18,000 per annum.

Governor Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, resigned as President of Princeton University the day that he accepted the nomination for Governor of New Jersey, although he was receiving \$10,000 per annum as President of the university, and his salary as Governor was little more than half as much as he received as President of Princeton University.

Robert Riddell, of Kentucky, resigned the office of Circuit Judge when he accepted the nomination as a Democratic candidate for Judge of the Court of Appeals.

Judge O'Rear, in his Elizabethtown speech, made a lengthy defense of Senator Bradley's alleged untainted title to his seat as United States Senator, and said: "Senator McCreary, Henry Watterson, Ollie James, Colonel John Allen and Colonel Frank Fehr and a number of other noted Democrats in Kentucky were voted for by those insurgents or bolters, whichever you want to call them, and Senator McCreary never once asked them to change their votes from him, indicating that he was willing to receive the votes of these four Democrats, who afterward voted for Bradley. Judge O'Rear could have avoided misrepresentation of me if he had asked me to tell him the facts.

I was not in Kentucky during the long-drawn-out contest between Beckham and Bradley for United States Senator, but I was in Washington attending to my duties as a United States Senator, and I now have in my possession a letter from Hon. Gus

Richardson, representative from Meade County, in which he says: "I wrote you after a number of ballots had been taken, and it was evident to me that Beckham could not be elected, and as I had no objection to nominating you if any break should come. In your reply you said positively that you would not permit the use of your name, and that you did not want any Representative or Senator to vote for you under any circumstances as long as Governor Beckham was a candidate."

I also have a letter in my possession from Hon. George T. Harris, in which he says: "You requested me to ask the Democrats in person and privately to not vote for you, as under no circumstances could you accept the office, if elected, while Governor Beckham was a candidate. I did comply with your request, and did go to Mr. McKnight and stated your request to him, and as the other men that would not vote for Beckham, you and I had no influence with, I asked McKnight to see them, and neither of them voted for you after that day."

In the allusions I have made to my distinguished opponent, I only desire to state facts and correct misrepresentations. "His long public career is familiar to all Kentuckians, and I would say nothing to disparage whatever merit he has displayed, or to detract from his standing as a party man."

The Democratic Platform.

The Democratic platform adopted at the State convention held at Louisville, Ky., August 15, reaffirms time-tried and time-honored Democratic doctrines, and it announces up-to-date Democratic principles which are worthy of the support of all Kentuckians.

I endorse the platform which was adopted by the convention. It represents the principles of the Democratic State ticket and presents the policies that will be upheld.

Speaking with candor and deliberation, I can say that in my opinion no better or more appropriate or progressive declaration of principles was ever made in Kentucky by an earnest, intelligent, patriotic body of men, representing the Democrats of every part of the State.

I shall not at this time discuss at length each section of the platform. I hope it will be read and carefully considered by each voter. It is sufficient for me to refer briefly to the subject matter of most of the sections.

The Democratic platform, after pledging anew our faith in and devotion to the time-honored and eternal principles of our party, and reaffirming our faith in successive platforms of the party, and especially reaffirming our faith in and devotion to the National Democratic platform adopted at Denver, Colo., in the year 1908, declares in favor of a direct primary election, the passage of a corrupt practice act, a more efficient system of public schools, woman's suffrage in school elections, abolition of the lobby, the creation of a State utilities commission, uniform accounting system.

Selection of the Prison Board by the Governor instead of by the General Assembly, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Reform of our tax system by submitting to a vote of the people whether or not they desire to adopt an amendment to our State Constitution broadening the powers of the General Assembly so that it may classify property for the purpose of taxation.

Creation of a Department of Banking, providing for competent inspection.

Wise and conservative laws to encourage road and bridge building.

Organization and co-operation among the farmers and laborers of the State, and the enactment of such Constitutional laws as will protect them from the greed of the trusts and monopolies of the country, which are the direct fruit of Republican legislation.

Favors laws for the protection from accident and injury of all laborers engaged in hazardous employments, and a wise, conservative law regulating the arbitration of labor strikes and disputes.

Opposition to all mobs and lynchings, and severe penalties on all officers who fail to protect prisoners entrusted to their keeping.

Law prohibiting peonage and female slave traffic, regardless of color.

Election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

Enforcement of the laws and rule of the people.

Religious and civil liberty and unalterable opposition to raising any religious test as a qualification for holding office.

Declares temperance is essentially a moral, non-political and social question, and should not be made a partisan issue between political parties, and favors the extension of the present local option law as applied to the sale of liquors, which has been upheld by our highest court as valid and constitutional, so that the citizens of each and every county in the State may determine for themselves whether spirituous, vinous or malt liquors may be sold therein.

I voted for and I endorsed every section of this platform, and it is proper I should say in this connection that I voted for the first local option law passed by the Kentucky Legislature in 1874, I then being a Representative from Madison County.

At a local option election held in Richmond I was absent attending to my duties as Senator at Washington, except the local option election held March 3 last, and on Louisville to attend a meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee called for that day by which was to call off the primary election which I had advocated, and in which I was deeply interested.

At the recent Democratic State convention I advocated at the Democratic candidates' meeting a declaration to be placed in the platform in favor of extension of the present local option law, and it was agreed to by the Democratic candidates, and was put in the Democratic platform.

On this platform of principles Democrats appeal to all Kentuckians, irrespective of previous political affiliations, to support our State ticket and our Democratic candidates.

Judge O'Rear in his speech at MAYfield on the 31st day of August asked me to answer the following questions: Are you now in favor of the extension of the county unit law in Kentucky etc., and when did you come to that conclusion?

I have already said in my speech today that I endorse every section of the Democratic platform at the State convention at Louisville on the 15th of August, 1911, but I will say now specifically—I am in favor of the extension of the present local option law as applied to the sale of liquors, so that the citizens of each and every county in the State may determine for themselves whether spirituous, vinous or malt liquors may be sold therein. These are the exact words of the State Democratic platform.

I came to this conclusion some time ago when the question of the extension of the county unit law became prominent, and I regard it as the best plan to settle an important question.

If Judge O'Rear had read on the day of the State Democratic convention the published account of the views of the State Democratic candidates for office, he would have known that I and all the other candidates for State offices were in favor of extending the county unit law.

Judge O'Rear says he proposes, if elected Governor, to remove the influence of the liquor lobby in the Kentucky Legislature, and its allied lobbyist, and asks me what I propose to do about it? My answer is as stated in the Democratic platform, and is as follows:

"I favor such laws as will under appropriate penalties destroy all corrupt lobbying seeking to influence any legislative body in the commonwealth on the subject of legislation, or the election of officers by it, or in any other matters" and I will do all in my power, if I am Governor, to carry out fully the statements in this section of the Democratic platform, and if the county unit is not enacted at the first session of the Legislature, if I am Governor I will determine then whether the Legislature shall be called into extra session to consider it.

Judge O'Rear asserts in very strong language what he will do with the Legislature if the members do not obey his dictation, and it is proper in this connection to say that each branch of the Legislature is certain to be Democratic, and will be more in sympathy with a Democratic Governor than with a Republican Governor.

Before I finish my speech I will ask Judge O'Rear to answer some important questions, but they will be more appropriate when I discuss another question.

Republicans Have Seized Some of the Most Important Principles of Both State and National Democratic Platforms.

Republicans after years of opposition to Democratic policies and principles have in the last few years seized some of the most important principles and policies advocated by Democrats in Kentucky, and some of the most important principles in National Democratic platforms.

Many of the declarations in the Republican State platform are in favor of principles which Democrats have advocated for years, notable among them being improvement of our educational system, revision of our tax system, better roads, divorcement of penal and charitable institutions from politics, thorough inspection of State banks, arbitration of labor disputes, prohibition of peonage and slave traffic; and it may be said in this connection that the first local option law was passed by a Democratic Legislature in 1874 and approved by a Democratic Governor.

Republicans have also eagerly seized planks in Democratic National platforms. This was notably the case when Republicans declared for Government regulation of railroad rates, for this was written in three National Democratic platforms, beginning with the platform of 1896.

The election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people has been advocated by Democrats for a quarter of a century, and these bills have been introduced in the Senate. Reciprocity in trade was advocated by the founder of the Democratic party, Thomas Jefferson, nearly a century ago, and was endorsed by several Democratic National conventions, and was advocated by the present Republican President, who called a special session of Congress in order to secure the passage of the Canadian reciprocity measure.

Publication of campaign contributions before the election has been advocated by Democrats for a number of years, and was supported both by Democrats and Republicans at the late session of Congress and passed.

The great and conspicuous difference between Democrats and Republicans as regards the pledges or declarations made in their platforms is that Democrats are faithful to their pledges and carry them out, while Republicans have been conspicuous for their broken pledges and disregard of national promises, both State and National.

Republicans Will Be Powerless If They Had the Governor, as Both Branches of the General Assembly Are Certain To Be Democratic.

It may be said in this connection that Democrats are certain to have control of both the State Senate and House of Representatives when the next General Assembly convenes, and will be in a condition to perform and carry out their pledges, while the Republicans have no prospect whatever of controlling either branch of the next General Assembly, and if they had, the Governor they would be powerless to enact or amend a law; one-half of the State Senators hold over, and they are all Democrats, and the majority of Democrats in the House of Representatives last session is too large to be overcome.

The Republican Party.

Kentucky Republicans are now saying very complacently we should in this campaign confine ourselves to State questions. Of course, they desire this, for they do not want the bad record of the Republican party, both in the State and Nation, brought to the attention of the people.

As Kentucky is a part of the United States, important questions which af-

fect legislation for the classes and not for the masses, laws enacted by a Republican Congress or vetoed by a Republican President, which involves economy in public expenses, cheaper clothing, cheaper food, cheaper farming implements or machinery, reduction of the burdens of taxation, are of grave interest and importance to the people of Kentucky, and it is proper and right that the record of the two great political parties should be presented exactly as they have made them.

Democrats know that Kentucky Republicans voted for President Taft and endorsed his administration, and also the last National Republican platform, and that Kentucky Republicans voted for Governor Willson, and endorsed his administration in the last Republican State platform. Kentucky Republicans have endorsed and upheld the highest protective tariff law in the world, a tariff law which has been an incubus with its burdensome taxation upon the farmer, the laboring man, the business man and all the people of Kentucky.

Kentucky Republicans have endorsed legislation which has made more millionaires in the United States than in all the nations of Europe put together, but the millionaires have been confined to the special classes benefited by the tariff, and not to the people of Kentucky.

They have acted with the political party which has legislated for the classes, and not for the masses, and which has by its legislation brought into our country trusts, combines, and monopolies, which have been like a Pandora box of evils to injure the prosperity of the people, consume their hard earnings and increase the expenses of living.

Democratic National Achievements.

Democrats made great achievements at the last November election. Then Northern and Western States, which had been strong Republican States, elected Democratic Governors and increased their Democratic representation in the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives.

The result of the last November election marks a new era in our country, and should strengthen the faith of all citizens in the virtue, intelligence and patriotism of the people, and in the success of free institutions under popular government.

It was a great protest of the people against the conduct of Republicans, and it was a vote of censure upon the President and Republican Congress, and a prelude, I hope and believe, to the overthrow of the Republican oligarchy which has become intoxicated with power, tyrannical in legislation and despotic in the management of Government affairs.

Democrats in the called session of Congress which has just adjourned did their duty nobly and faithfully. They have been true to the pledges made in our National platform, and they made a record which not only surprised their friends and discouraged their enemies, but gave hope and encouragement to Democrats everywhere.

They passed the Canadian reciprocity measure, which President Taft could not get the Republican Congress to pass.

They passed resolutions providing for an amendment to the Constitution to authorize the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people, but a Republican amendment prevented the final adoption of the resolutions.

They passed a bill providing for the publication of campaign contributions before the election.

They passed the farmers' and laborers' free list bill.

They passed bills materially reducing the tariff duties on wool and woolen goods of all classes, and the passed the cotton bill, and admitted Arizona and New Mexico to Statehood.

President Vetoes Most Important Bills.

The Republican President, William H. Taft, vetoed the three most important bills passed by Democrats in the House of Representatives, and passed by Democrats and insurgent Republicans in the Senate, and these bills gave the greatest relief to the people.

He vetoed the bill reducing existing taxes on wool and on woolen goods, which saved the people of the United States two hundred millions of dollars per annum, and he vetoed the bill reducing existing tariff taxes on cotton goods, which saved fifty millions per annum to the people; and he vetoed the farmers' and laborers' free list bill, which saved one hundred millions of dollars to the farmers and laborers, his remarkable and unsatisfactory excuse being that tariff revision should wait until reports are made on the different tariff schedules by a tariff board composed of men who have no more capacity and no better information on the tariff than the members of the Ways and Means Committee which reported the bills to which I have referred.

President Taft is the first President in all the history of our Republic who vetoed bills to cheapen the clothing of the poor people, cheapen bread and meat for the hungry, cheapen machinery and tools for the farmer and laboring men, and yet my distinguished opponent, Judge O'Rear, voted for Taft and endorsed his platform in 1908, and at the late Republican convention of Kentucky, held July 11, he wrote and voted for a resolution in the Republican platform which endorsed William H. Taft for re-nomination for President in 1912. The King of England has not in centuries exercised such a right as Taft has exercised, and, in my opinion, if the King of England were to veto such bills as Taft vetoed it would cost his crown, and indignant, determined people all over our country will see to it that Taft will lose his crown or office at the November election in 1912, and all those who support and uphold him in the matters to which I referred should lose their chance for office, also.

Asks Judge O'Rear Questions.

Judge O'Rear wrote the resolutions adopted at the Republican state convention, which endorsed the administration of President Taft and which recommended President Taft for re-nomination as the Republican candidate for President in 1912.

This connection I wish to ask the Republican candidate for governor, Judge O'Rear, questions which are very interesting to all the people of Kentucky and which involve cheaper clothing, cheaper goods, cheaper farming machinery and implements, cheaper mechanics' tools and also justice under the law.

Do you endorse President Taft's veto of the bill known as the farmer's free list bill?

Do you endorse President Taft's veto of the bill reducing the existing tariff taxes on wool and woolen goods?

Do you endorse President Taft's veto of the bill reducing the existing taxes on cotton goods?

Do you endorse the votes against the farmers' free list bill which were cast by Senator Bradley and Representative Powers and your campaign chairman, Representative Langley?

Do you endorse the Ryan-Aldrich tariff bill which President Taft signed and which he said was the best Republican tariff law ever passed?

Do you endorse the pardon by Governor Willson of Taylor, Finley, Howard and Powers?

You have been silent on these great questions, some of which involve the reduction of the price of clothing, food, farming machinery and mechanics' tools to the amount of hundreds of millions of dollars. These questions are of grave and vital importance to the people of Kentucky, and the people of Kentucky want to know where you stand. Come out candidly and say where you are.

Judge O'Rear Inconsistent.

Judge O'Rear appears to be inconsistent. He claims to be a progressive, yet he is for Taft for re-election as President, and Taft is a standstill, and O'Rear commended in his platform Senator Bradley and Representatives Langley and Powers, who are standstillers, and he has Langley as his campaign manager, and Bradley and Langley and Powers voted against the farmers' and laborers' free list bill, and the bills reducing tariff duties on wool and woolen goods and on cotton.

Democratic Tariff Vs. Republican Tariff.

President Taft started the tariff campaign a few days ago at Hamilton, Mass., when on the 26th of August he made a speech and severely criticized Senator Clark and Representatives Underwood and Senator La Follette and other Senators and Representatives for passing the bills he vetoed, and he accused them of ignorance of the effect of the legislation, and he reached his climax when he said: "Men of Massachusetts, it seems to me that the slogan of the Republican party should involve a National cry and not be confined to mere State issues. Democrats everywhere are ready to accept this challenge, and we believe our cause of justice, right and fair taxation, will be victorious."

Both of the great political parties in Congress now face the realization that the defeat by the President of so much needed, just and important tariff legislation at the special session of Congress makes certain a tariff battle at the regular session beginning on the first Monday in December, next, which will exceed in fierceness any tariff battle which ever occurred, and that the tariff will go into the Presidential election next year with force and fierceness never equaled before. In all the Presidential contests where the tariff has been the great issue, Democrats have always been victorious, and I hope and believe history will repeat itself in 1912. The arguments are convincing and unanswerable, in support of the Democratic position for tariff reduction so as to get tariff for revenue only as soon as possible.

The Robert Walker tariff bill, enacted in 1846, is said to have been the best tariff bill ever passed by the Congress of the United States, and its average rate was less than half the average rate of the existing tariff law. It remained on the statute books unchanged until 1857, a period of eleven years. James G. Blaine, in his book, "Twenty Years of Congress," stated that the eleven years of the Walker tariff were the most prosperous in the life of the Republic, and that the people were so satisfied with it that in 1856, after it had been in operation ten years, neither of the great political parties which presented Presidential candidates referred to the tariff in its platform.

The Morrill tariff bill was passed in 1866, after the Civil War commenced, and the Republican party has since that time in every National platform promised a revision of the tariff. The revisions have always been upward instead of downward, until we now live under the highest tariff schedule ever known in the world.

Republicans promised in the last National contest for President to revise the tariff downward in the interest of the consumers. They revised it upward in the interest of monopolies and manufacturers, but in doing this they made plainer and clearer to the people than ever before that the true Democratic doctrine as to the tariff is that the Government has no right in equity or in law to collect a dollar of taxation except for its own support, and that Republican doctrine is that taxes may be levied for the benefit and protection of favored individuals and preferred classes, which is legalized robbery.

Look for a moment at a few of the inequalities of the existing tariff rates. On clothing worn by the laboring man it levies a duty of 86 per cent. On champagne the duty is 55 per cent. On woolen or worsted goods worn by multitudes of women it is 145 per cent, and on the fine silk costume of the rich the tax is 60 per cent. On the plain, coarse blanket of the poor the tariff is 166 per cent, while on the finest and costliest blanket it is 71 per cent. On carpets used by the owners of fine mansions the tariff is 50 per cent, while on the cheap carpets used in the modest homes of the working man it is 137 per cent.

The existing tariff law contains 2,024 articles, and the report of the Department of Commerce shows that the total production in the United States of goods protected by the tariff last year was thirteen billions of dollars, and there was imported